

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please add the following paragraph after paragraph [0039] as follows:

Figure 4A is an axial section view of an annular shrinkage chamber and a pre-heating chamber according to another embodiment of the invention;

Please replace paragraph [0061] with the following paragraph:

[0061] If the article in question is of section that varies little, then the shrinkage percentage of the associated sleeve will likewise vary little. Under such circumstances, a chimney 140 that is cylindrical in shape will suffice, the chimney being of constant thickness from one end to the other. However, in some situations, the shrinkage percentage can vary considerably up the height of the article, in particular from top to bottom of said article. As shown in Figure 4A, under ~~Under~~ such circumstances, it may be advantageous to vary the inside section of ~~the a~~ chimney 140~~a~~ accordingly. Provision could than be made for the wall thickness T_1, T_2 of the chimney 140~~a~~ and/or its cross-section to vary. Naturally, provision could be made for the chimney to have a top portion that tapers conically and that is fitted to the top of a main portion that is cylindrical (~~variant not shown herein~~).